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UNCLAS ANKARA 001393

SIPDIS

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E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [SENV](#) [TBIO](#) [TSPL](#) [TPHY](#) [KGLB](#) [KPAO](#) [TU](#)
SUBJECT: THE GLOBE PROGRAM: TURKEY'S VIEWS

REF. SECSTATE 6351

1. Embassy met with GLOBE national coordinator Fatma Baykal 2/7 to explore ways to energize program activities. Baykal advised that despite great interest in the program, the Ministry of National Education (MONE) is no longer able to implement the program as fully as it would like. Baykal advised, for example, that Turkey lost out on participating in the successful IT Hasan grant proposal, a four-country GLOBE project with Egypt, Jordan, Lebannon and Turkey, because the GOT was unable to respond to its partners in a timely fashion.

2. MONE has recommended that TUBITAK (the Scientific and Research Council of Turkey) assume all national GLOBE responsibilities and has asked embassy to facilitate a smooth transition. TUBITAK has not yet responded to the MONE request.

3. Comment. Turkey was one of the early signers of the GLOBE agreement (May 1995) but has allowed the program to slow considerably since an enthusiastic start. TUBITAK's GLOBE leadership has alluring possibilities but may be fraught with bureaucratic obstacles. Post will meet again with MONE, confer with TUBITAK and advise on which agency is likely to become party to the new NASA agreement.
PEARSON